

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 CEDAR STREET
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

MAYOR STEPHEN WOODS

NEWINGTON TOWN COUNCIL Helen Nelson Room – Town Hall 131 Cedar Street

> Minutes April 10, 2012 7:00 P.M.

NOTE: PLEASE REFER TO AUDIO TAPES FOR A COMPLETE TRANSCRIPT OF THIS MEETING. AUDIO TAPES ARE ON FILE IN THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE.

Mayor Woods called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Helen Nelson Room of the Newington Town Hall.

I & II PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & ROLL CALL

Councilors Present

Councilor Borjeson

Councilor Bottalico

Councilor Castelle

Councilor Cohen

Councilor DelBuono

Councilor Klett

Deputy Mayor McBride

Councilor Nagel

Mayor Woods

Staff Present

John Salomone, Town Manager

Ann Harter - Director of Finance

Lisa Rydecki - Deputy Director of Finance

Chief Richard Mullhall - Newington Police Department

Steve Juda - Assessor

Jaime Trevethan - Executive Assistant to the Town Manager

III. AWARDS/PROCLAMATIONS

A. Retirement – MPO Alberto Higuera

Mayor Woods moved the following:

WHEREAS, Master Police Officer Alberto Higuera was hired as a Police Officer for the Town of Newington on February 18, 1991, served as Canine Handler with police canine "Erst" from July 1995 through July 2000, and was appointed Master Police Officer on July 21, 2002; and

WHEREAS, MPO Higuera also currently serves as a Colonel in the Connecticut Army National Guard; and

WHEREAS, MPO Higuera has received many commendations and awards for outstanding job performance throughout his career, most notably in 1994 for his efforts in the

Phone: (860) 665-8510 Fax: (860) 665-8507 townmanager@newingtonct.gov www.newingtonct.gov apprehension of two wanted felony suspects, in 1995 for his efforts in a burglary investigation, in 1996 for a motor vehicle stop which culminated in an arrest for possession and intent to sell a large amount of narcotics, and in 2008 for his quick actions that resulted in the apprehension of felony suspects engaged in the process of a robbery, among many others; and

- WHEREAS, as Canine Handler, MPO Higuera received a Second Honorable Mention in the 1996
 Daniel Wasson Awards from the Connecticut Police Work Dog Association and received
 the North American Police Work Dog Association's Outstanding Service Award in 1997;
 and
- WHEREAS, MPO Higuera served on the Midstate Narcotics Team from May 2008 through October 2009; and
- WHEREAS, MPO Higuera has received many letters of thanks and appreciation from Town residents and other area Police Departments; and
- WHEREAS, MPO Higuera will retire from the Town of Newington on April 12, 2012 after 21 years of service:
- NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Newington Town Council hereby recognizes and extends its sincere appreciation to Master Police Officer Higuera for his professional service and dedication to the Town and wishes him the best in his retirement.

MPO Higuera thanked Chief Ganley for hiring him and thanked Chief Klett for making him the K-9 handler. He stated that he enjoyed his time as an officer and worked hard for the residents of Newington. He wished his co-workers the best of luck.

Councilor Cohen noted that MPO Higuera has won many awards in his career and thanked him for his service. Councilor Klett stated appreciation for MPO Higuera's dedication to making the residents safe. Deputy Mayor McBride noted that bravery that one must have in order to accomplish the achievements listed on the resolution. Mayor Woods thanked MPO Higuera for his many years of excellent service and said that he will be missed.

Chief Mulhall noted that MPO Higuera has been one of the top performers for many years and thanked him for his great attitude. He also noted MPO Higuera's military time, including tours in Iraq. He stated that MPO Higuera will be missed.

Motion seconded by Councilor Cohen. Motion passed 9-0.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – IN GENERAL

Gary Bolles, 25 Burdon Lane – Mr. Bolles noted that the Democrats pledged a zero-tax increase during the elections and stated that using funds from the reserve fund to balance the budget is a shallow way of balancing the budget. He stated that by doing so, the Council did not keep its promise to the voters. He also remarked that the cut to the Board of Education budget is "paltry" and stated that he is not in favor of this budget.

Don Lewkowski, New Britain – Mr. Lewkowski stated that he is the Boy's Tennis Coach at Newington High School and he thanked the Council for reallocating funds to reconstruct the tennis courts at the High School. He stated that he has been active in the Town for many years and stated that the Town has great sports facilities. He remarked that the new tennis courts will be another crown jewel in the Town's sports program. He indicated that the courts are currently in deplorable condition and are unsafe. He asked the Council to consider adding lights to the courts.

John DiBatista, Mr. DiBatista spoke on behalf of the Town's veterans and spoke in favor of the proposed tax relief for veterans. He asked the Council to think about the sacrifices made by the veterans and stated that freedom is not free.

Sebastian Salvatore, 6 Ponderosa Lane, Mr. Salvatore noted that there are many younger veterans in Town who have homes and young families and are struggling to make ends meet. He asked the Council to support the veterans.

Peter Arburr, 133 Tremont St. – Mr. Arburr inquired about the CIP line item for Town Hall Architectural Planning and inquired as to why that number has increased. He stated that he is unaware of any project in the works that is relative to the number being proposed and stated that it appears to be a large amount of money with no ties.

Rose Lyons, 46 Elton Drive – Ms. Lyons stated that the Republicans also promised a 0% increase during the elections and stated that neither party can take the total blame for the increase. She thanked the Council and staff for their efforts during the budget session.

V. CONSIDERATION OF OLD BUSINESS

A. Local Elderly Tax Relief and Veteran's Exemption

(Please refer to audio recording for complete transcript.)

Assessor Steve Juda addressed the Council regarding the various tax relief items.

Town Manager Salomone stated that the veterans' exemption would be effective on the October 1, 2012 Grand List, but would not be reflected in the tax bills until July 2013, as per State statute. Mr. Juda stated that the Council can re-address the veteran's tax exempt and make any changes at anytime prior October 1, 2012 and the changes will be reflected in July 2013.

Councilor Bottalico noted the three different resolutions/options and inquired how the Council would handle it. Town Manager Salomone stated that there are four options, including one substitute resolution that can be read if the Council wishes to make adjustments to the exemption.

Councilor DelBuono recommended that the Council support allocating \$100,000 into the veteran's tax relief. She stated that while she realizes that the elderly need the benefit as well, allocating the funds to the veterans will help more people. Councilor Bottalico agreed. Councilor Cohen noted that by allocating all funds to the veterans then no one will benefit in the coming year. Councilor DelBuono recommended that since the upcoming budget won't be affected by the veteran's increase, that the Council allocate \$50,000 to the elderly and \$100,000 to the veterans, thereby making a commitment to helping the veterans in 2013. Councilor Castelle noted the increase in benefit for both groups. Councilor Klett stated that the Town provides many services to the elderly but not as many for the veterans.

Councilor Bottalico stated that it would make sense to increase the veterans per Councilor DelBuono's suggestion as it will not affect the upcoming budget. Mr. Juda noted that the veterans' relief will be a net decrease to the grand list, rather than a line item in the budget. Deputy Mayor McBride spoke in favor of splitting the funding 50/50 in order to allow both groups to receive a tax break. He stated that he would not feel comfortable voting on something now that won't go into effect until the next budget. Councilor DelBuono noted that the veterans' benefit would have to be done prior to October 1; it can't wait until next year. Councilor Castelle spoke in favor of the 50/50 split. Councilor Borjeson agreed with Councilor Castelle. Councilor Cohen noted that with the 50/50 split the veterans will not receive any relief now. Councilor Nagel concurred with Councilor DelBuono's idea.

Councilor DelBuono moved the following:

WHEREAS, section 12-81f of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as may be amended from time to time, grants municipalities the authority to provide veterans eligible to an exemption under subdivision (19) of section 12-81 an additional exemption up to ten thousand dollars; and

WHEREAS, section 12-81f of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as may be amended from time to time, grants municipalities the authority to expand the income requirements for veterans eligible to an exemption under subdivision (19) of section 12-81; and

WHEREAS, the Newington Town Council wishes to provide additional exemption for those veterans who meet the income requirements of subdivision (19) of section 12-81;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council hereby enacts an additional veteran exemption up to \$10,000 to veterans whose total family adjusted gross income is less than \$50,000 from all sources pursuant to the income requirements of subdivision (19) of section 12-81 of Connecticut statutes in accordance with Section 12-81f; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this additional veteran's exemption shall be effective commencing with the Grand List of October 1, 2012 and shall be applied to each assessment year thereafter until changed by future resolution. This exemption will commence to eligible veterans effective with the billing date of July 1, 2013.

Motion seconded by Councilor Klett.

Roll Call Vote

Councilor Borjeson – no
Councilor Bottalico – yes
Councilor Castelle – no
Councilor Cohen – no
Councilor DelBuono – yes
Councilor Klett – yes
Deputy Mayor McBride – no
Councilor Nagel – yes
Mayor Woods - no

Motion fails 4-5 (per roll call vote)

Deputy Mayor McBride moved the following:

WHEREAS, section 12-129n of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as may be amended from time to time, grants municipalities the authority to enact property tax relief at local option for residential property of the elderly and permanently and totally disabled; and

WHEREAS, the Newington Town Council wishes to provide additional tax relief for senior and disabled residents of the Town of Newington who presently participate in the Circuit Breaker State Program of Property Tax Relief;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council hereby enacts a property tax relief program in accordance with the schedule below for each eligible participant as a supplement to the existing tax relief benefits obtained from the State of Connecticut in accordance with Sections 12-129b to 12-129d, inclusive; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this tax credit shall be effective commencing with the Grand List of October 1, 2011 and for each assessment year thereafter until changed by resolution and that this benefit will commence to eligible homeowners effective with the billing date of July 1, 2012.

State of Connecticut & Total
Town of Newington Local Option
Qualifying Income Range Elderly Benefit
\$0 to \$16,100 \$725

| \$16,100 | to | \$21,700 | \$600 |
|----------|----|----------|-------|
| \$21,700 | to | \$27,100 | \$400 |
| \$27,100 | to | \$32,300 | \$275 |
| \$32,300 | to | \$39,500 | \$250 |

Motion seconded by Councilor Klett.

Roll Call Vote

Councilor Borieson – ves Councilor Bottalico -no Councilor Castelle -yes Councilor Cohen -yes

Councilor DelBuono - no

Councilor Klett - no

Deputy Mayor McBride - yes

Councilor Nagel - no

Mayor Woods - yes

Motion passes 5-4 (per roll call vote)

Councilor Castelle moved the following:

WHEREAS, section 12-81f of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as may be amended from time to time, grants municipalities the authority to provide veterans eligible to an exemption under subdivision (19) of section 12-81 an additional exemption up to ten thousand dollars; and

WHEREAS, the Newington Town Council wishes to provide additional exemption for those veterans who meet the income requirements of subdivision (19) of section 12-81;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council hereby enacts an additional veteran exemption up to \$10,000 to veterans who meet the income requirements of subdivision (19) of section 12-81 of Connecticut statutes in accordance with Section 12-81f; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this additional veteran's exemption shall be effective commencing with the Grand List of October 1, 2012 and shall be applied to each assessment year thereafter until changed by future resolution. This exemption will commence to eligible veterans effective with the billing date of July 1, 2013.

Motion seconded by Councilor Cohen.

Roll Call Vote

Councilor Borjeson – yes

Councilor Bottalico – yes

Councilor Castelle - yes

Councilor Cohen - yes

Councilor DelBuono - yes

Councilor Klett - ves

Deputy Mayor McBride - yes

Councilor Nagel - yes

Mayor Woods - yes

Motion passed 9-0

B. Adoption of Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2012-13 (Please refer to audio recording for complete transcript.)

Councilor Castelle moved the following:

RESOLVED:

That the following General Fund appropriations of the Town of Newington are hereby adopted for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013, in accordance with Section 805 of the Charter of the Town of Newington:

APPROPRIATIONS:

| Town Government Operations: | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|------------|
| General Government | \$4,360,206 | |
| Public Safety | 7,682,013 | |
| Public Works | 4,874,759 | |
| Community Planning & Development | 443,023 | |
| Public Health | 134,320 | |
| Community Services | 984,797 | |
| Public Library | 1,676,218 | |
| Parks & Recreation | 1,578,547 | |
| Insurance - Miscellaneous | 8,742,373 | 30,476,256 |
| Debt Service | | 2,235,672 |
| Metropolitan District | | 2,952,000 |
| Capital Improvements | | 3,936,961 |
| Equipment Reserve | | 402,367 |
| Employee Leave Liability Reserve Fund | | 91,100 |
| Board of Education | | 63,347,585 |

TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS

\$103,441,941

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That, in accordance with Section 805 of the Charter of the Town of Newington, the following General Fund estimated revenues be raised to meet these appropriations:

ESTIMATED REVENUES:

| Current Taxes | \$80,953,338 |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Prorated Taxes | 650,000 |
| Prior Years Taxes | 390,000 |
| Interest & Liens | 265,000 |
| Payments in Lieu of Taxes | 2,316,301 |
| Licenses & Permits | 165,225 |
| Rentals | 136,945 |
| Investment Income | 100,000 |
| Fines | 35,000 |
| Charges for Services | 480,000 |
| Refunds & Reimbursements | 91,825 |

| Sale of Town Property | 200 | |
|--|------------|----------------------------|
| State Aid | 15,395,636 | |
| Federal Aid | 9,000 | |
| Miscellaneous | 38,500 | |
| Donations | 1,333 | |
| Transfers from Other Funds General Fund Balance Applied | 163,638 | \$101,191,941 2,250,000 |

TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES AND APPLIED FUND BALANCE

\$103,441,941

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Clerk is hereby instructed to place the accompanying General Fund Budget Summary on the record of this meeting to illustrate the above appropriations and revenue estimates.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the following budget is hereby adopted for the Public School Capital Improvement Projects Reserve Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013:

APPROPRIATIONS:

| Painting | \$25,000 |
|---|---------------|
| Carpeting | 25,000 |
| District-wide Security and Safety | 25,000 |
| District-wide Furniture Replacement | 15,000 |
| System-wide Air Conditioning Installation | 25,000 |
| Athletic Improvements | 25,000 |
| Career Technical Facilities Modifications | 75,000 |
| District-wide Corridor/Exterior Doors | 15,000 |
| District-wide Bathroom Renovations | 25,000 |
| District-wide Playground Renovations | 25,000 |
| NHS Music Wing Expansion | <u>50,000</u> |
| TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS | \$330,000 |

ESTIMATED REVENUES:

| General Fund Appropriations | \$125,000 |
|---|---------------|
| Interest Earnings | 400 |
| Tuition Receipts | 65,000 |
| School Rental Receipts | 50,000 |
| Fund Balance | 89,600 |
| TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES AND APPLIED FUND BALANCE | \$ 330,000 |

Motion seconded by Councilor Cohen.

Councilor DelBuono stated that she will not support the resolution due to several changes that were not passed that she feels that the Council should have further discusses. Councilor Bottalico stated that he will not support the budget because he feels that it more the Mayor's budget than the Council's budget. Councilor Nagel agreed with Councilors DelBuono and Bottalico.

Councilor Klett stated support for the budget and noted that it is normal for the minority party not to support the budget. She noted that there were several opportunities for those who are not satisfied with the budget to provide other options. Councilor Castelle noted the extraordinarily low increase in expenditures and noted that Town residents will not experience a decrease in services due to this budget. Councilor Borjeson expressed support for the budget and noted that 80% of the residents will have no tax increase this year. He noted that many area towns are facing major tax increases. Deputy Mayor McBride noted that many obstacles faced by the Council for this budget process and expressed support for the budget. Councilor Cohen noted that this budget provides many services to the residents and students while doing more with less.

Councilor DelBuono stated that her decision is not a partisan one, it is a personal opinion and she had encouraged her colleagues to vote as they wish. Mayor Woods noted that among the line item changes at the recent special meeting, only one did not pass unanimously. He spoke in favor of the budget. He stated that he felt that the budget was a bipartisan effort and stated that he is sorry that some of the Councilors are disappointed. He noted that all services will be maintained without a reduction in staff. He stated that while he would have liked to see the budget lower, he is proud that 80% of the residents will not see a tax increase, especially given a revaluation. He also thanked the Board of Education for their cooperation.

Roll Call Vote

Councilor Borjeson – yes Councilor Bottalico – no Councilor Castelle – yes Councilor Cohen – yes Councilor DelBuono – no Councilor Klett – yes Deputy Mayor McBride – yes Councilor Nagel – no Mayor Woods - yes

Motion passed 6-3 (per roll call vote)

C. Adoption of Long-Range Capital Improvement Plan 2012-13 through 2015-16

Councilor DelBuono moved the following:

RESOLVED:

The Newington Town Council hereby adopts the "Town of Newington Long-Range Capital Improvement Plan 2012-2013 through 2016-2017," a final copy of which will be on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

NOTE:

This vote is binding only for the funds committed for fiscal year 2012-2013; the proposed funding for 2013-2014 through 2016-2017 is for planning purposes only and is subject to change through future budget deliberations.

Motion seconded by Councilor Klett. Motion passed 9-0.

D. Set Mill Rate

Deputy Mayor McBride moved the following:

RESOLVED:

In accordance with Section 805 of the Town Charter of the Town of Newington, the Town Council hereby fixes a tax rate of 32.64 mills for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013, which shall be levied on taxable property in the Town of Newington listed on the October 1, 2011 Grand List, and said tax shall become due and payable in accordance with Section 43-1 of the Newington Code of Ordinances. The Town Manager is hereby authorized to make out and sign the rate bill in accordance with this motion.

Motion seconded by Councilor Cohen.

Roll Call Vote

Councilor Borjeson – yes
Councilor Bottalico – no
Councilor Castelle – yes
Councilor Cohen – yes
Councilor DelBuono – no
Councilor Klett – yes
Deputy Mayor McBride – yes
Councilor Nagel – no
Mayor Woods – yes

Motion passed 6-3 (per roll call vote)

E. Transfer of Funds: Charter Revision Commission

Councilor Klett moved the following:

RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council hereby authorizes an expenditure not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) from Program 962, Contingency, for expenses related to the duties of the Charter Revision Commission.

Motion seconded by Councilor Borjeson. Motion passed 9-0.

F. Transfers within the Town's Capital Project Funds

Councilor Castelle moved the following:

CERTIFICATION:

In accordance with Section 808 of the Town Charter, I hereby certify that there exists, free from encumbrances, in the following appropriations in the Public Building Fund, the amount listed below:

Account Number Title Amount 88202 Co 1 Roof Repl/Gutter Relining 38,308

Ann J. Harter, Director of Finance

RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council hereby transfers the above-certified funds to the following account in Public Building Fund:

Account NumberTitleAmount88203Co 5 Roof and Windows38,308

Motion seconded by Councilor Bottalico. Motion passed 9-0.

Councilor Castelle moved the following:

CERTIFICATION:

In accordance with Section 808 of the Town Charter, I hereby certify that there exists, free from encumbrances, in the following appropriations in the Capital Non-Recurring Fund, the amounts listed below:

| Account Number | <u>Title</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|----------------|--|---------------|
| 88034 | High School Gym Floor Replacement | \$288,426 |
| 88014 | Road Rehab – Church Street and Stoddard Avenue | 15,737 |
| | Total | \$304.163 |

Ann J. Harter, Director of Finance

RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council hereby transfers the above-certified funds to the following accounts in the Capital Non-Recurring Fund:

| Α | c | c | റ | u | n | t |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | |

| <u>Number</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|---------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 88931 | OCR Compliance | \$288,426 |
| 88819 | Road Reconstruction | <u>15,737</u> |
| | Total | \$304,163 |

Motion seconded by Councilor Bottalico. Motion passed 9-0.

G. Bid Waiver: Fire Department/Engine #4

Councilor Borjeson moved the following:

- WHEREAS, the Town Council has the power under Section 814 of the Newington Charter to waive the process of procuring sealed bids; and
- WHEREAS, Town personnel have determined that Pierce Manufacturing makes fire apparatus that best suits the needs of the Town in price, quality of materials and standardization with other fire apparatus within the Town's fleet,
- NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council grants a waiver, as requested by the Board of Fire Commissioners, for the requirement of sealed bids for a fire apparatus to replace Fire Engine #4; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the bid waiver to <u>Pierce Manufacturing</u>, is granted subject to a final negotiated price between Pierce Manufacturing and the Town.

Motion seconded by Councilor Nagel.

Councilor Klett stated that she will not be in favor of the resolution because she is not in favor of bid waivers in general. She noted that Pierce Manufacturing will likely be the only company to respond to a bid request anyway and stated that not going through the bid process does not sit well with her. Councilor DelBuono stated that the bid process is there for a reason, but based on the circumstances of this particular situation she is in favor of the waiver so that the price can be negotiated. Mayor Woods spoke in favor of waiving the bid, noting that the Fire Department went through a very competitive bid process a few years ago, with Pierce being the low bidder. He also stated that by waiving the bid the Town will have the ability to negotiate price. Councilor Castelle agreed with Mayor Woods and stated that he is in favor of the resolution. Mayor Woods noted that the Charter does have a provision for waiving bids.

Roll Call Vote
Councilor Borjeson – yes
Councilor Bottalico – yes
Councilor Castelle – yes
Councilor Cohen – yes
Councilor DelBuono – yes
Councilor Klett – no
Deputy Mayor McBride – yes
Councilor Nagel – yes
Mayor Woods – yes

Motion passed 8-1 (per roll call vote)

H. Historic Preservation Grand/Bid Waver Request: Laserfische (Town Clerk)

Councilor Nagel moved the following:

- WHEREAS, the Town Manager is seeking, on behalf of the Town Clerk, to purchase Laserfiche—a software program that will facilitate and enhance the search and retrieval of specific collections of records. Laserfiche can only be purchased through a value-added reseller" (VAR). A VAR is a company that adds features or services to an existing product then resells it (usually to end-users) as an integrated product or complete "turnkey" solution. Laserfiche has assigned General Code as the VAR—General Code is the only company allowed to resell Laserfiche software to the Town of Newington; and
- WHEREAS, Laserfiche currently appears on the General Services Administration (GSA) contract list. The GSA is an independent agency of the United States government that assists with procurement work for other government agencies. The GSA can be thought of as a collection of pre-negotiated contracts. Procurement managers from government agencies (in this case the Town of Newington) can view these agreements and make purchases from the GSA Schedule knowing that legal obligations have been taken care of by GSA; and
- WHEREAS, Laserfiche has qualified to be placed on the GSA list as GS-35F-0435P--guaranteed pricing is effective only when an entity purchases licenses for 25 users. The Town of Newington is proposing to purchase ten licensed users; and
- WHEREAS, there are two phases to this project. Phase I (totaling \$11,000) includes the purchase of core components of the Laserfiche Avante System; \$6,500 will be offset by anticipated funding from the FY2013 Historic Preservation Grant. Phase II (approximately \$15,000) will include the purchase of additional modules to enhance the core system functionality; and,
- WHEREAS, the entire Laserfiche project will cost approximately \$26,000, and the Town Council of the Town of Newington, operating under the authority of Section 814 of the Newington Charter, has established rules and regulations covering purchases of goods and services for the Town involving the expenditure of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or more; and
- WHEREAS, the Town Council has the power under Section 814 of the Newington Charter to waive the process of procuring sealed bids or proposals for reasons expressly stated that sealed bids or proposals are unnecessary or not in the best interests of the Town;
- NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Newington Town Council hereby waives the necessity of procuring a sealed bid or proposal for the purchase of Laserfiche software because there is only one vendor allowed to resell this product to the Town of Newington.

Motion seconded by Councilor Cohen.

Councilor Klett stated that she is not in favor of the resolution because she is not in favor of bid waivers in general. Councilor Castelle inquired whether laserfiche is the only system that will work for this purpose. Town Manager Salomone replied in the affirmative and stated that the laserfiche system is already in place.

Roll Call Vote

Councilor Borjeson – yes Councilor Bottalico – yes Councilor Castelle – yes Councilor Cohen – yes Councilor DelBuono – yes Councilor Klett – no Deputy Mayor McBride – yes Councilor Nagel – yes Mayor Woods – yes

Motion passed 8-1 (per roll call vote)

VI. CONSIDERATION OF NEW BUSINESS (Action May Be Taken Only by Waiving the Rules.)

- A. Wallace School Roof Replacement Project
- B. School Code Compliance Project

Town Manager Salomone stated that these two items are for information purpose and will be considered for action at the next meeting. He stated that the action will be to accept the plans and authorize the projects to go to bid.

C. Agent of Record – Employee Insurance and Benefits

Councilor Castelle stated that the Employee Insurance and Benefits Committee met the previous evening to interview and discuss firms for the Agent of Record. Finance Director Ann Harter stated that this must be done every six years and as a result of the Committee's meeting the Committee is recommending reappointing Lockton as the Town's Agent of Record. She stated that the Council will be asked to take action on the appointment at the next Council meeting.

VII. RESIGNATIONS/APPOINTMENTS)

Councilor DelBuono moved the following:

RESOLVED:

That the Newington Town Council hereby makes the following appointments:

EMS Committee

| Name | Address | Party | Term | Replaces |
|-------------|-------------------|-------|----------|----------|
| NVA Rep.: | 77 Northwood Road | R | Immed. – | Vacancy |
| Scott Woods | | | 12/31/13 | - |

Motion seconded by Councilor Nagel. Motion passed 9-0.

VIII. WRITTEN/ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER, OTHER TOWN AGENCIES AND OFFICIALS, OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES AND OFFICIALS AND THE PUBLIC

None.

IX. COUNCIL LIAISON/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Nagel reported on the Senior and Disabled Center.

- There will be an opening ceremony for the new Senior Housing on April 13.
- Dianne Stone, Director, attended a conference on ageing.
- The Center is reopening its coffee shop on May 8
- A new sound system will be installed in the auditorium

Councilor Nagel reported on the Library Board

- The Library is celebrating National Library Week this week.
- The Library will sponsor a free concert on April 15 in Town Hall.
- The Friends of the Library will be holding a fundraiser at Ruby Tuesday, in which 20% of proceeds will be donated to the Library
- The Spring Book Sale will be held on May 4 − 6.

Councilor Borjeson stated that he spoke to CRCOG Director Lyle Wray regarding feasibility studies for each busway station.

Councilor Klett stated that the Town Manager Evaluation Subcommittee has met and has begun to discuss the evaluation process for the year.

X. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – IN GENERAL

Mady Kenny, 53 Crestview Drive - Ms. Kenny thanked the Council for their efforts in the budget.

Dr. Marc Finkelstien, Board of Education Chair – Dr. Finkelstien thanked the Council for a fair budget that is a good compromise on both sides.

Rose Lyons, 46 Elton Drive – Ms. Lyons thanked the Mayor for allowing the public extra time to speak in Public Participation, but asked that the "no dialogue" rule be enforced.

XI. REMARKS BY COUNCILORS

(none)

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Bottalico moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m. Motion seconded by Councilor Castelle. Motion passed 9-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jaime Trevethan
Executive Assistant to the Town Manager

NOTE: PLEASE REFER TO AUDIO TAPES FOR A COMPLETE TRANSCRIPT OF THIS MEETING. AUDIO TAPES ARE ON FILE IN THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE.